



COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
OFFICE OF THE COUNTY COUNSEL

648 KENNETH HAHN HALL OF ADMINISTRATION
500 WEST TEMPLE STREET
LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90012-2713

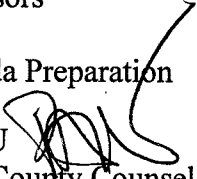
JOHN F. KRATTLI
Acting County Counsel

May 14, 2012

TELEPHONE
(213) 974-1861
FACSIMILE
(213) 229-9924
TDD
(213) 633-0901

TO: SACHI A. HAMAI
Executive Officer
Board of Supervisors

Attention: Agenda Preparation

FROM: PATRICK A. WU 
Senior Assistant County Counsel

RE: **Item for the Board of Supervisors' Agenda**
County Claims Board Recommendation
Arthur Lerille, Jr., et al. v. County of Los Angeles, et al.
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. KC 059 580

Attached is the Agenda entry for the Los Angeles County Claims Board's recommendation regarding the above-referenced matter. Also attached are the Case Summary and the Summary Corrective Action Plan to be made available to the public.

It is requested that this recommendation, the Case Summary and the Summary Corrective Action Plan be placed on the Board of Supervisors' agenda.

PAW:rfm

Attachments

Board Agenda

MISCELLANEOUS COMMUNICATIONS

Los Angeles County Claims Board's recommendation: Authorize settlement of the matter entitled Arthur Lerille, Jr., et al. v. County of Los Angeles, et al., Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. KC 059 580, in the amount of \$525,000 and instruct the Auditor-Controller to draw a warrant to implement this settlement from the Sheriff's Department's budget.

This lawsuit arises from injuries sustained in a vehicle accident involving an employee of the Sheriff's Department.

CASE SUMMARY

INFORMATION ON PROPOSED SETTLEMENT OF LITIGATION

CASE NAME	Arthur Lerille Jr., et al v. County of Los Angeles, et al.
CASE NUMBER	KC059580
COURT	Los Angeles County Superior Court East District
DATE FILED	September 13, 2010
COUNTY DEPARTMENT	Sheriff
PROPOSED SETTLEMENT AMOUNT	\$ 525,000
ATTORNEY FOR PLAINTIFF	Pitre & Teunisse, Inc.
COUNTY COUNSEL ATTORNEY	Vicki Kozikoujekian Principal Deputy County Counsel
NATURE OF CASE	<p>On November 8, 2008, a Deputy Sheriff, while in the course and scope of his employment, entered the intersection and collided with Mr. Lerille's vehicle.</p> <p>Plaintiff claims that the Sheriff Deputy negligently broad-sided his vehicle, by entering the intersection on a red light. The County claims that the plaintiff failed to wear a seatbelt which was the direct cause of his injuries.</p> <p>Due to the risks and uncertainties of litigation, the Sheriff's Department proposes a full and final settlement of the case in the amount of \$525,000.</p>
PAID ATTORNEY FEES, TO DATE	\$ 65,968
PAID COSTS, TO DATE	\$ 17,458

Case Name: **Arthur J. Lerille, Jr. v. County of Los Angeles**



Summary Corrective Action Plan

The intent of this form is to assist departments in writing a corrective action plan summary for attachment to the settlement documents developed for the Board of Supervisors and/or the County of Los Angeles Claims Board. The summary should be a specific overview of the claims/lawsuits' identified root causes and corrective actions (status, time frame, and responsible party). This summary does not replace the Corrective Action Plan form. If there is a question related to confidentiality, please consult County Counsel.

Date of incident/event:	Saturday, November 8, 2008; approximately 5:25 a.m.
Briefly provide a description of the incident/event:	<p><u>Arthur J. Lerille, Jr. v. County of Los Angeles</u> Summary Corrective Action Plan No. 2012-011</p> <p>On Saturday, November 8, 2008, at approximately 5:25 a.m., a Los Angeles County deputy sheriff was driving a standard, black and white, County-owned patrol vehicle west on Arrow Highway, east of Sunflower Avenue, Glendora (unincorporated Los Angeles County). After he entered the intersection, the vehicle he was driving collided with the plaintiff's vehicle.</p>

1. Briefly describe the root cause(s) of the claim/lawsuit:

This incident was thoroughly investigated by representatives of the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department and the California Highway Patrol. Their investigations concluded that the deputy sheriff caused the traffic collision by violating California Vehicle Code section 21453(a), Circular Red or Red Arrow.

2. Briefly describe recommended corrective actions:
(Include each corrective action, due date, responsible party, and any disciplinary actions if appropriate)

The Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department had relevant policies and procedures/protocols in effect at the time of this incident.

The Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department's training curriculum addresses the circumstances which occurred in this incident.

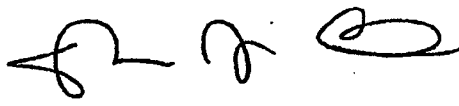
The Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department's administrative review revealed employee misconduct. Appropriate administrative action was taken.

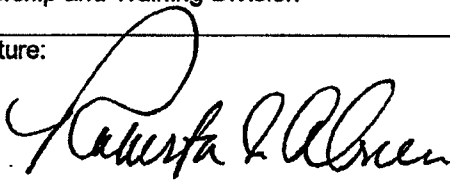
County of Los Angeles
Summary Corrective Action Plan

3. State if the corrective actions are applicable to only your department or other County departments:
(If unsure, please contact the Chief Executive Office Risk Management Branch for assistance).

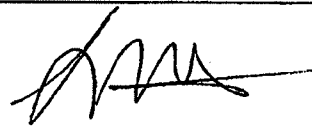
- ☐ Potentially has Countywide implications.
- ☐ Potentially has an implication to other departments (i.e., all human services, all safety departments, or one or more other departments).
- ☒ Does not appear to have Countywide or other department(s) implications.

Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department

Name: (Risk Management Coordinator) Shaun J. Mathers, Captain Risk Management Bureau	
Signature: 	Date: 3/22/12

Name: (Department Head) Roberta A. Abner, Chief Leadership and Training Division	
Signature: 	Date: 03/27/12

Chief Executive Office Risk Management Branch

Name: LEO COSTANTINO	
Signature: 	Date: 4/17/12

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